

I Love the Lord (Psalms 116:1-9)

- I. I Love The Lord Because of His Granting
 - A. The Lord Granted in the Surrounding
 - B. The Lord Granted in the Suffering
- II. I Love The Lord Because of His Goodness
 - A. He is Good in His Abundant Grace
 - B. He is Good in His Absolute Righteousness
 - C. He is Good in His Affectionate Mercy
- III. I Love The Lord Because of His Guarding
 - A. He Stands Guard Over My Simplicity
 - B. He Stands Guard Over My Soul
 - C. He Stands Guard Over My Sorrow
 - D. He Stands Guard Over My Stumbling

I Love the Lord! PS 116:1-9

My grandfather rarely if ever told my dad that he loved him. I remember often hearing my dad painfully tell me that he never remembered his dad ever telling him that he loved him. Usually right behind this story my dad would tell me that he loved me. I know there are a lot of generational curses handed down generation after generation but some times God interrupts and breaks family curses. So that makes me an I Love you person! I try to say it all the time. When I leave someone, or get off the phone with them, I have a habit of telling them I love them. You talk about making an engineering meeting really uncomfortable, just try telling them you love them when it's over. But my fear is that I say it so much that it loses its meaning. When me + Eary are on the phone and I want to get off the phone, I'll say "Well, I love you." That has come to mean not you are treasured, cared for, adored, it has come to mean I want the conversation over so I can get off the phone.

I. Because of His Granting - I remember as a kid hearing the deacons in church pray "Grant it to be so Lord" The Psalmist is proclaiming that he loves the Lord because the Lord had

granted his request, ~~he has heard his prayer...~~

A. He Granted in the Surrounding - V53 The Psalmist describes his situation as being surrounded by deadly sorrows. That sorrow mixed with terror, Spurgeon described it as "hunters surrounding a stag w/ dogs and men so that no way of escape is left." The Psalmist was encircled by death grief. Have you been there? Where griefs and sorrows seemed to be all around? David said that's why he loved the Lord because in this surrounding he lifted his voice to cry out to God and He heard & delivered, V54 delivered - narrow escape.

B. He Granted in the Suffering - Not only surrounded, on the verge of trouble, but when pains of death leap out and clasp their grip upon their victim. When it's got a hold on us. Even then it's not too late to cry out to God! When trouble and sorrow have tracked you down, there is a God that is attentive and able to intervene in your situation! He inclined his ear, he turned toward my need! David loves the Lord because He heard his prayer! ^{Psalm 138} The Lord Preserves God answers prayer, This love is in response to His

II. Because of His Goodness - We used to sing a song at Temple sometimes called God is Good all the time. Here the psalmist begins to tell us that He loves the Lord because

- 1) My question to you today, is Have you told the Lord you love Him lately. And when you said it did you really mean it. This message today is not about you nor is it about me. This messages is a big fat I really love you God kind of message. That's what I want to do today. If you are having difficulty telling God you love him, the psalmist provides some reasons to say I love the Lord.

1) John 1:17 For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.

- 2) 1 John 4:19 We love him, because he first loved us.

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of His goodness. ^{different from} God's goodness can be seen in 3
A. Good in His Abundant Grace ^{v55} - So many
times we think of the Grace of God as only
a N.T. concept. Well here we find the
- the Psalmist, bragging on the Grace of
God. That favor that God shows upon
undeserving sinners. David is a hell
deserving sinner, we don't have to look far to
see that, yet God graciously attends to his cry.

B. Good in His Absolute Righteousness -
This God that is gracious is also right-
eous. That means there is not a blemish or
blem in anything He does. There is no in-
justice in Him, there is no favoritism, there
- is no double standard or crookedness in Him. His
character is flawless. Then How can he be
gracious? At the Cross! At the Cross In 1:17

C. Good in His Affectionate Mercy -
Because God is righteous and just, He
should not only withhold his response
to our cry but he should reign down
fiery wrath upon top of our sorrows
and trials, yet he withhold he hold back
his wrath in mercy. 142 Times in OT we read
- that the Lord's mercy endureth forever!

III. Because of His Guarding ^{v56} -
The word preserve means to hedge
about with thorns to protect to attend, to
Guard. I love the Lord because of His

guarding over my life. Not secure things he guards.

A. He stands guard over my simplicity - this word means simple or foolish. Oh what an apt description of me. I tend to be so foolish, so ignorant in the path I should take and yet time and time again He has stood watch over my stupidity.

B. He stands guard over my soul. He first of all stands guard over my eternal soul in salvation, the atoning work and intercessory work of Christ, stand guard over my soul. But also He stands guard presently over my mind, feelings, emotions. So many times I should have cracked up a long time ago.

C. He stands guard over my sorrow. V58

Sorrow and heart ache, are common with all. David had his sorrows, Ps 6:6. Yet here he was delivered from tears. The psalmist is indicating that his tears of sorrow were short lived. Children of God do not sorrow as others without hope. There is God.

D. He stands guard over my stumbling -

Just as sorrow, stumbling is common to all. We all falter and slip, yet he delivers our feet from utterly falling. PS 37:24; PS 94:18

Talking to Guya Rock Creek about rock climbing, as climb nail spikes and secure a line. When falling ^{and} ^{long} ^{just}

IV. Closing - Because of these ^{just} ^{benefits} God has abundantly blessed David with V54 I'll walk before an audience of 1 I'll Bless the Lord and declare so all know I Love the Lord

- 1) Psalms 6:6 I am weary with my groaning; all the night
make I my bed to swim; I water my couch with my tears.
- 2) ...there is a God who guards our hearts from being
overwhelmed in sorrow and turns our sorrows into joy.
- 3) Psalms 37:24 Though ~~he~~ fall, he shall not be utterly cast
down: for the LORD upholdeth him with his hand. Psalms
94:18 When I said, My foot slippeth; thy mercy, O LORD,
held me up.